

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 08630 180421Z

17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

OMB-01 AID-05 SAJ-01 EB-07 STR-04 /085 W

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R 171139Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2053

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 8630

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, IN

SUBJ: INDO-PAKISTAN RELATIONS

REF: NEW DELHI 12184

1. IN DISCUSSION WITH POL COUNSELOR AND VISITING
DEPARTMENT (NEA/INS) OFFICER BAZIL BROWN SEPTEMBER
16 AND 17, MFA OFFICIALS REPORTED TWO SETBACKS IN
PAST FEW DAYS TO INDO-PAK NORMALIZATION EFFORTS:

A. PAK INDUS WATERS COMMISSIONER, JUST RETURNED
FROM NEW DELHI, HAD TELEPHONED FROM KARACHI TO REPORT
THAT FOURTH ROUND OF INDO-PAK NEGOTIATIONS ON SALAL
DAM HAD FAILED. TWO SIDES REMAINED SO FAR APART THAT
THEY HAD BEEN UNABLE TO ISSUE JOINT STATEMENT FOLLOWING
BREAKDOWN. DISPUTE NOW GOES BACK TO FOREIGN SECRE-
TARIES WHO WILL DETERMINE WHETHER TO HOLD FURTHER
DISCUSSIONS OR TO SUBMIT CONTROVERSY TO NEUTRAL
EXPERT TO BE SELECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS
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PAGE 02 ISLAMA 08630 180421Z

OF INDUS WATERS TREATY.

B. GOI, REPLYING TO GOP INVITATION TO HOLD THIRD ROUND OF CIIL AIR TALKS, HAD AGAIN CALLED FOR WITHDRAWAL OF DISCONTINUANCE OF PAK REFERENCE TO ICAO OF 1971 DISPUTE. ACCORDING TO OFFICIALS, THIS REPRESENTS TO PAKS A RENEGING ON WHAT THEY HAD ACCEPTED AS A SIGNAL FROM THE INDIANS, CONVEYED THROUGH PAK INDUS WATERS COMMISSIONER, THAT GOI WOULD TAKE A MORE FORTHCOMING POSITION. SINCE BOTH SIDES HAD AGREED EARLIER THAT IT WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO ANOTHER ROUND OF TALKS UNLESS AGREEMENT HAD BEEN WORKED OUT IN ADVANCE, NO FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ARE NOW IN SIGHT AND ISSUE IS ON DEAD CENTER.

2. WE WILL BE REPORTING MORE FULLY ON INDO-PAKISTAN RELATIONS FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS HERE WITH PAKS DURING NEA/PAB DIRECTOR CONSTABLE'S VISIT LATER THIS WEEK. IN MEANTIME, WE MUST CERTAINLY AGREE THAT THE DISCOURAGING DEVELOPMENTS MFA HAS REPORTED TO US CONFIRM EMBASSY NEW DELHI'S CONCLUSION (REFTEL THAT PROSPECTS FOR SIGNIFICANT FORWARD MOVEMENT IN NORMALIZATION PROCESS ARE INDEED DIM AT THIS TIME. BYROADE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ISLAMA08630
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750323-0222
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750944/aaaabmzf.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 NEW DELHI 12184
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 NOV 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDO-PAKISTAN RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, PK, IN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006